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ACTION ARA-15

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 7019

E.O. 12065: GDS 8/27/85 (FRIEDMAN, TOWNSEND B.) OR-P
TAGS: SNUM, AR
SUBJECT: (C) REPORT OF FIVE MORE DISAPPEARANCES IN EARLY TO MID AUGUST

REF: (A) BUENOS AIRES 6730, (B) BUENOS AIRES 6961, (C) BUENOS AIRES 6962.

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT.)

2. INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY: THE EMBASSY HAS BECOME AWARE OF FIVE MORE DISAPPEARANCES IN THE MONTH OF AUGUST. EACH OF THESE DISAPPEARANCES APPARENTLY RELATES TO ONE OR THE OTHER OF THE TWO DISAPPEARANCES WE REPORTED EARLIER (REF A). FOUR OF THE SECOND BATCH OF DISAPPEARANCES HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY REPORTED TO THE EMBASSY (REF B) BUT WE WERE AWAITING SOLID CONFIRMATION, WHICH WE NOW HAVE. END INTRODUCTION AND SUMMARY.

3. ON AUGUST 24 JOSEFINA GOMEZ DE VILLAFLOR CALLED AT THE EMBASSY AND DESCRIBED TO US THE DISAPPEARANCES OF HER SON, HER DAUGHTER AND THEIR RESPECTIVE SPOUSES. MRS. VILLAFLOR STATED THAT HER DAUGHTER JOSEFINA VILLAFLOR DE HASSAN (28 YEARS OLD) HER HUSBAND, JOSE LUIS HASSAN (ABOUT 24) AND THE COUPLE'S 2 YEAR OLD CHILD WERE TAKEN FROM THEIR HOME IN VILLA

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DOMICO BY SIX CAR LOADS OF ARMED MEN WHO BROKE INTO THEIR HOME

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY [signature] DATE 4/24/82
RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
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LATE AUGUST 3. THE CHILD WAS RETURNED TO MRS. HASSAN THE NEXT DAY BY AN UNIDENTIFIED MAN IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES AND A "SERVICE STYLE" -- I.E. SHORT -- HAIRCUT. MRS. VILLAFLOR SAID THE DISAPPEARANCE WAS WITNESSED BY THE HASSAN'S NEIGHBORS, AN ASSERTION ATTESTED TO BY THE PRIEST WHO ACCOMPANIED HER TO THE EMBASSY. SHE ALSO STATED THAT SHE RECEIVED A BRIEF PHONE CALL FROM HER DAUGHTER AUGUST 4 AND MR. HASSAN'S FATHER, WHO [illegible]NISH, RECEIVED A SIMILAR CALL FROM HIS SON THE SAME DAY. NEITHER FAMILY HAS HEARD FROM THE DISAPPEARED HASSANS SINCE. BOTH CALLS WERE TO THE EFFECT THE CHILD WOULD SHORTLY BE DELIVERED TO THE GRANDPARENTS.

4. MRS. VILLAFLOR STATED THAT HER SON, RAIMUNDO VILLAFLOR AND HIS WIFE [illegible]SA MARTINEZ WERE TAKEN FROM THE SON'S PICKUP TRUCK AUGUST 4, WHEN IT WAS FORCED TO THE SIDE OF THE ROAD BY TWO UNMARKED CARS. THE COUPLE WAS PUT INTO SEPARATE CA[illegible] AND THE PICKUP DRIVEN OFF BY MEN INVOLVED IN THE OPERA[illegible]. THE VILLAFLOR'S TWO CHILDREN (AGE 5 AND 2) WHO WERE RIDING IN THE TRUCK, WERE LEFT BY THE ROADSIDE. SUBSEQUENTLY [illegible]AUNDO VILLAFLOR'S HOME ALSO IN VILLA DOMICO WAS BROKEN INTO, SEARCHED AND SACKED BY A GROUP OF MEN. THE WEEK OF AUGUST 20-25, A GROUP OF MEN RETURNED TO VILLAFLOR'S CARPENTER SHOP, ATTACHED TO HIS HOME, TO SEARCH AND SACKED IT. THE VILLA[illegible] COUPLE HAS NOT BEEN HEARD SINCE.

5. THE VILLAFLO[illegible] FAMILY AND THE PRIEST THAT ACCOMPANIED MRS. VILLAFLOR BELIEVE STRONGLY THAT THESE DISAPPEARANCES ARE RELATED TO THAT OF JUAN CARLOS ANZORENA, WHICH TOOK PLACE AUGUST 17. THEY STATE THAT RAIMUNDO VILLAFLOR AND JOSEFINA VILLA[illegible]OR DE HASSAN WERE INVOLVED IN THE SAME PRINTERS UNION IN THE LATE 1960'S. THEY ALSO SAID THAT THROUGH THE UNION RAIMUNDO VILLAFLOR WAS AN IMPORTANT

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FIGURE IN THE "CGT OF THE ARGENTINES." WE UNDERSTAND THE CGT OF THE ARGENTINES WAS SPLINTER CGT GROUP WITH LEFTIST, CATHOLIC LEANING, WHICH LASTED FOR ABOUT TWO YEARS FROM 1960-1970. THE PRIEST, MRS. VILLAFLOR AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FAMILY CLAIMED THAT SO FAR AS THEY KNOW HER SON GAVE UP UNION AND POLITICAL ACTIVITY WHEN THE CGT OF THE ARGENTINES COLLAPSED IN 1970. THE DAUGHTER, JOSEFINA, THEY SAID WAS NEVER POLITICALLY ACTIVE AND WAS ONLY AN EMPLOYEE IN THE DISPENSARY OF THE UNION. THE ELDER MRS. VILLAFLOR AND THE PRIEST SPECULATE TO US THAT THE

HASSANS MAY HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY MISTAKE SINCE THEY WERE LIVING IN A [illegible] THAT WAS PREVIOUSLY OCCUPIED BY RAIMUNDO VILLAFLOR AND HIS WIFE.

6. MRS. VILLAFLOR WAS NOW ALSO TOLD HER STORY TO THE BUENOS AIRES HERALD [illegible] WHICH PUBLISHED ELEMENTS OF THE FOREGOING AUGUST 26. THE HERALD STORY ALSO RELATES THAT THE FATHER OF VILLAFLOR IS A FORMER PERONIST MAYOR OF AVELLANEDA, A BUENOS AIRES SUBURB. INCIDENTALLY, THE FATHER WAS APPARENTLY OPPOSED TO SEEKING ANY OUTSIDE HELP, FEARING THAT TO DO SO WOULD JEOPARDIZE THE MISSING COUPLES. ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS PERSUADED THE FATHER TO COME FORWARD.

8. THE FIFTH DISAPPEARANCE WE HEARD OF REPORTEDLY TOOK PLACE AUGUST 14 WHEN FERNANDO RUBEN BRODSKY DISAPPEARED. WE HAVE NOT TALKED WITH THE BRODSKY FAMILY BUT OUR SOURCE FOR THIS REPORT IS USUALLY RELIABLE IN THESE FACTUAL MATTERS. ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, BRODSKY WAS A FRIEND OF PABLO ARMANDO LEPISCOPO WHO DISAPPEARED AUGUST 5. THIS DISAPPEARANCE, SO FAR AS WE KNOW, HAS NOT BEEN REPORTED TO ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATIONS OR APPEARED IN THE PRESS, EVIDENTLY BECAUSE THE FAMILY PREFERES TO KEEP SILENT.

9. FINALLY WE HAVE EARLIER REPORTED THAT LEPISCOPO CALLED HIS MOTHER WHO STATED HE WOULD BE HOME "WITHIN THREE DAYS". THE SAME SOURCE THAT TOLD US OF BRODSKY'S DISAPPEARANCE
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ALSO MAINTAINS THAT LEPISCOPO HAS CALLED HIS MOTHER-IN-LAW WITH A SIMILAR MESSAGE.

10 COMMENT: THE AMBASSADOR PLANS TO SEE GENERAL VIOLA IN A FEW DAYS AND WILL RAISE THESE DISAPPEARANCES WITH HIM AT THAT TIME. END COMMENT.
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